

Intended Use

Care-Fill Capillary Tubes are for use with the **epoc**® Blood Analysis System and are used for the collection and dispensing of capillary blood samples with the **epoc** Test Cards.

Product Description

Care-Fill Capillary Tubes are Mylar® wrapped glass capillary tubes. The capillary tubes feature a custom adapter specifically designed to perform with the **epoc** Test Card. Each capillary tube is marked with a single blue band and contains a white porous plug positioned at the 90µL mark.

In the event of actual breakage, the Mylar puncture-resistant wrapping minimizes risks associated with glass capillaries by containing both the glass and blood sample in the event of accidental breakage.

Product Specifications

Packaging:	10 capillary tubes per box, 50 per package
Storage:	2 - 30°C
Shelf Life:	See label for expiration date
Volume:	90 µL
Anticoagulant:	Approximately 65 IU/mL calcium balanced lithium heparin

Ordering Information

Catalog Number: AT-0006-00-00

Description: **epoc** Care-Fill Capillary Tubes

Safety and Regulatory

Practice recommended "Universal Precautions" when using this device. Use gloves, gowns, eye protection and other personal protective equipment as necessary to protect from exposure to bloodborne pathogens. Discard after use by disposing in sharps and biohazard disposal containers according to the policies and procedures of your facility.

In 2006, a joint advisory letter was released by the FDA, NIOSH and OSHA addressing the potential risks to safety posed by the use of plain glass capillary tubes¹. This letter has been referenced by laboratory accreditation and inspection agencies to promote discontinuing the use of plain glass capillary tubes for specimen collection due to safety reasons². Optional ways of reducing risks are suggested, such as the use of non-glass capillary tubes or glass capillary tubes wrapped in puncture resistant film^{1,2}. The use of Mylar wrapped, **epoc** Care-Fill Capillary Tubes is in compliance with current regulatory standards.

1. Burlington, D. et al. Glass Capillary Tubes: Joint Safety Advisory About Potential Risks, Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Feb 1999 USDHHS. 1 June 2006

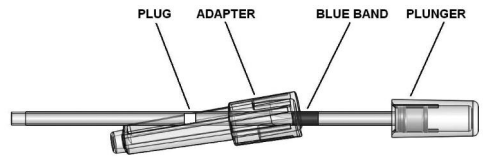
2. Laboratory General Checklist. College of American Pathologists. 6 April 2006: Gen.71032, page 110 1 June 2006



Instructions for Use

Follow the policies and procedures for capillary blood collection used in your facility.

Remove one **epOC** Care-Fill Tube from the box. When handling the capillary tube, hold only by the blue band. Do not remove, re-position, depress or hold by the capillary tube's plunger. Do not remove adapter. Adapter can be repositioned for ease of handling and to assure white porous plug remains visible during specimen collection.



1. Collect patient sample

- Hold the capillary tube horizontally, pointing towards the puncture site and contact the blood drop.
- Maintain horizontal position and continue filling capillary tube until blood sample contacts the porous plug.

(Note: Sample should be collected bubble free. Wetting the porous plug prevents sample spillage when the capillary tube is inverted.)

2. Prepare tube for sample introduction

- Hold tube by blue band, pointing the tip of the capillary tube upwards.
- Slide adapter towards tip of capillary tube, and insert the capillary tube tip into the adapter.
- Affix adapter to capillary tube by gently pushing capillary tube into the adapter until it is secured into the adapter.

3. Introduce patient sample

- Hold cap tube vertically by large end of adapter and insert into test card sample port, rotating up to 1/4 turn to ensure good fit.
- Maintain hold of adapter and use fingers of other hand to push plunger down completely in one motion until Reader beeps.
- Remove capillary tube from test card when Reader beeps.



Precautions

- Do not squeeze or "milk" the puncture site excessively as it may result in sample hemolysis*.
- Do not use the **epOC** Care-Fill Capillary Tube if an air bubble has been trapped in the sample.
- Do not use the sample if it appears to be clotted.
- Do not use the sample if the **epOC** Care-Fill Capillary Tube breaks.
- Use only one **epOC** Care-Fill Capillary Tube per **epOC** Test Card.

Recommendations

- The choice of the lancet should be adequate to supply a sample size of 90µL.
- Wipe away the first drop of blood to avoid contamination with tissue fluids.
- While collecting blood gently apply intermittent pressure to the tissue surrounding the puncture* with your free hand.
- The **epOC** System is designed for point-of-care blood analysis. In general, it is recommended to test samples immediately after drawing to obtain results that represent patient status with the greatest accuracy."
- Roll tube between hands to mix blood if dispensing is delayed.
- The blood collection *from the puncture is enhanced by holding the puncture site downwards**.
- Adequate blood flow should be insured by warming (arterializing) the skin puncture. A warm, moist towel (or other warming devices) at a temperature no higher than 42°C may be used to cover the site for three to five minutes. This technique increases arterial blood flow to the site up to seven fold*.

* Source: Procedures and Devices for the Collection of Diagnostic Capillary Blood Specimens; Approved Standard- Fifth Edition, CLSI H4-A5, Vol 24, No 21, 2004.

For more information, go to www.epocal.com

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